

JORDAN TIMES

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U.S. arms for N. Yemen

WASHINGTON, May 8 (R). — The Ford administration notified Congress today it intends to sell North Yemen nearly \$105 million worth of military equipment.

If approved by Congress, this would be the first large sale of American military items to the Yemen Arab Republic. Previous U.S. military sales there total only about \$3 million.

The Defence Department said the proposed sale involves anti-aircraft guns, trucks, Jeeps, ambulances and spare parts. No other details were announced.

Mendoza cleans up

BUENOS AIRES, May 8 (AFP). — Beards, moustaches and long hair will soon go out of fashion for the men of the Argentine city of Mendoza if the police chief has his way.

Police in Mendoza, 1,100 kms west of here, announced today that all identity papers bearing photos of bearded residents will become invalid at the end of this month.

New papers will be issued only to clean-shaven men with short haircuts, they said, and any new growth that could alter the appearance of the holder of the documents will be illegal.



King Hussein, President Assad and Crown Prince Hassan meet in Damascus Saturday. (JNA photo).

Hussein leads top-level delegation to Damascus

AMMAN, May 8 (JT). — His Majesty King Hussein and a high-powered Jordanian delegation arrived here early today and immediately plunged into a full day of talks with Syrian President Hafez Assad and top Syrian officials.

King Hussein and President Assad started their discussions immediately after the King's arrival. Their talks continued over lunch, and King Hussein called upon President Assad for a third and of closed talks this evening.

The Higher Jordanian-Syrian Joint Committee, meanwhile, held a meeting in Damascus under the joint chairmanship of Crown Prince Hassan and Syrian Premier Mahmoud Ayoubi.

King Hussein's accompanying delegation includes Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister Zeid Rifai, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Sherif Zeid Ibn Shaker, Chief of the Royal Hashemite Guard Mudar Badran, the President of the National Planning Council Dr. Hanna Odeh, and the ministers of culture and information, education, finance, and industry and commerce.

Before leaving Amman, King Hussein swore in Prince Shammam as Viceroy.

Upon arrival at Damascus, King Hussein was met by President Assad, a 21-gun salute and crowds chanting "one people, one army."

President Assad threw a dinner banquet in honour of King Hussein and the Jordanian delegation Saturday evening.

Talks between the two sides and the two leaders are to continue here Sunday.

President Assad told reporters at the airport the talks were taking place within the framework of continued cooperation and consultation between the two countries.

"We hope to come out from this meeting, as we did in previous meetings, with something in the interest of joint action," he added.

King Hussein said: "We are trying to work for the interest of the two countries and that of the whole Arab nation."

It was officially announced that the two leaders would not follow a fixed schedule of work, but would meet at mutually convenient times.



Hussein and President Assad stand at attention during the playing of the Jordanian and Syrian national anthems at Damascus airport. (JNA photo).

UNCTAD meet set to get down to hard bargaining

ROBI, May 8, (R). — Hard bargaining now lies ahead of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) after three days of speeches which highlighted the differences between rich and poor nations.

Developing countries know they want. Their Manila programme of action agreed in February binds them to seek radical reform of world commodity markets and a massive transfer of technology and resources.

There is, however, no solid front among the industrialised powers. The balance of payments and debt problems of the developing countries — although everyone, rich and poor alike, agrees that ways must be found to iron out sharp fluctuations in raw material prices.

West German Economics Minister Hans Friderichs was among the strongest supporters of the industrial growth solution to balance of payments problems.

Norway, Finland and Sweden are also ready to go further than other rich countries on meeting demands by the poor, both on commodities and on debt relief — including complete write-offs for the worst off of all.

But most of the industrialised nations are highly sceptical about the wisdom of setting up a common fund, before agreements are worked out in detail on individual commodities.

There is a wide belief among them that an expanding world economy is the best answer to the balance of payments and debt problems of the developing countries — although everyone, rich and poor alike, agrees that ways must be found to iron out sharp fluctuations in raw material prices.

West German Economics Minister Hans Friderichs was among the strongest supporters of the industrial growth solution to balance of payments problems.

He said West Germany was the biggest European market already for developing countries' exports and favoured future market expansion.

Last year, the developing countries were able to sell commodities worth over \$30,000 million in West Germany, more than twice as much as in 1971.

There have been few formal reactions to Dr. Kissinger's idea of an international resources bank, which would sell bonds to big multinational corporations for investment in high cost resource projects — principally mining and energy — in the Third World.

Perhaps because Dr. Kissinger made it clear that the offer, though it could be modified, was as far as the U.S. could go, most speakers from rich and poor nations alike have confined themselves to promising close study.

But the Secretary General of the Organisation of African Unity, Mr. Etel Mbomouma, was quick to condemn the concept. He said: "The idea of a bank founded by private capital which by its nature seeks investments which are profitable if not unscrupulous, does not inspire confidence."

Despite evidence of Third World scepticism of the resources bank, several delegates were convinced the economic preponderance of the United States made careful consideration imperative.

Some blunt remarks by Dr. Kissinger have been duly noted, and with some resentment: "The United States, better than almost any other nation, could survive a period of economic warfare. We can resist confrontation and rhetorical attacks if other nations choose that path," the Secretary of State told the conference.

In all the torrent of words produced at the 153-nation conference so far, two brief sentences added apparently at the last minute to Dr. Kissinger's speech have produced more comment and speculation than any other.

These referred to U.S. readiness if necessary to consider the resources bank as a supplementary channel for financing buffer stocks.

This could offer the chance of compromise at Nairobi — and

Sarkis voted new Lebanese president; leftists reject parliamentary decision after failing to halt vote

BEIRUT, May 8 (Agencies). — In a barrage of mortar shells from leftwing militias, Lebanon's Parliament today gathered in a makeshift chamber and picked Central Bank Governor Elias Sarkis to succeed Suleiman Franjeh as President of the Republic. Leftists quickly rejected the voting results.

At least 40 shells landed near the yellow brick villa where the voting took place.

The vote was 66 for 51-year-old Mr. Sarkis, with three abstentions.

Elias Sarkis: Technocrat who shuns the limelight. See profile page 3.

The name of the other frontrunner in the presidential race, Mr. Raymond Edde, was not even mentioned during the 20-minute voting procedure.

Mr. Edde was the candidate of Lebanon's left, which stayed away from the ballot.

Two shells crashed into the road just outside the building's forecourt. Twenty-nine of the house's 98 deputies boycotted the vote.

Mr. Sarkis was elected on the second ballot.

Leftwing parties said tonight they rejected the result of today's parliamentary meeting.

In a statement issued after a meeting, the parties said the parliamentary session had resulted in a "flagrant forging of the Lebanese will."

The statement said the people should stand fast and defend themselves against "continued isolationist (rightist) onslaughts and other forms of provocation."

They should also resort to various forms of popular action against "military and political intervention aimed at striking at the Palestinian revolution and dominating Lebanon," it added.

Tonight's meeting was not attended by leftwing leader Kamal Junblatt, Head of the Progressive Socialist Party, who was in Alep, near Beirut.

Reuters did not identify more clearly the "leftists" who rejected the election results.

A few hours after the election, at least four people were killed and several wounded in a fierce gun battle outside the residence of Mr. Sarkis.

Sources close to the Mourabitoun organisation of leftwing leader Ibrahim Kofeilat said its militiamen and other leftist fighters



RUBBLE CITY. — This is a view up a sidestreet in downtown Beirut's commercial district.

clashed with troops of the Saiga commando group outside the Carlton Hotel, Mr. Sarkis' residence.

Mr. Sarkis announced he would remain in the hotel.

Lebanon's new President pledged today to serve the whole population.

In his first interview following his election, he thanked the Moslem and Christian MPs who backed him, and thanked "the people they represent."

He said he hoped "the almighty (God) will help me serve the people, re-establish security, calm and stability so that we can rebuild the country together and restore unity among its sons."

Mr. Sarkis admonished his conservative and moderate partisans to refrain from "outbursts of joy, because there is no cause to rejoice in these hours of crisis."

He said he attached "great importance to the confidence parliament has shown in me because I am perfectly aware of the difficulties of my mission."

"We live in a democratic regime whose essence is freedom of thought... and diversity of opinions."

Interior Minister Camille Chamoun said the election "consecrates the triumph of democracy in Lebanon, despite present difficulties."

Raymond Edde said he hoped his rival's election was "the start of untangling the Lebanese crisis..."

"I wish Mr. Sarkis complete success in his mission."

Mr. Sarkis granted his first interview to the National News Agency controlled by partisans of General Aziz Ahdab.

Saiga commandos were in position round parliament today to ensure the safety of the election.

Details of the action outside the Carlton Hotel were vague, but people in the area said Saiga men had been defending Mr. Sarkis against leftwing fighters.

Several shells landed near the Carlton, apparently fired from near the airport.

The shooting finally died down about 6 p.m., and Mr. Sarkis, unruffled by the attack, sipped champagne with members of his staff in the hotel lobby.

His secretary told Reuter that leftwing gunmen paraded in about a dozen jeeps in front of the hotel this morning as deputies were gathering for the election.

Then the leftists started shooting, the secretary said, but caused no casualties to anyone inside the hotel.

Artillery barrages from Palestinians near the airport helped deter the attackers, the secretary said.

Gunmen defending Mr. Sarkis mingled with hotel guests in the hotel lobby as Mr. Sarkis held his champagne celebration.

Observers here said the election of Mr. Sarkis was likely to trigger fresh large-scale clashes between Right and Leftwing forces confronting each other along the ragged line dividing Beirut.

President Suleiman Franjeh, [Continued on page 6]

Death toll on the rise after Italian quake

UDINE, Northeast Italy, May 8 (Agencies). — Seven hundred and seventeen bodies were removed from earthquake ruins in Northeast Italy today.

This was announced here by authorities supervising rescue and relief work in the 20 villages wrecked on Thursday night.

Most of the damage was in the Alpine foothills of the Friuli district north of Venice and Trieste, although tremors were also felt in Austria, Yugoslavia, Southern Germany, Switzerland and eastern France.

Emergency aid flowed into the earthquake disaster area early today as rescue workers struggled to cope with a stream of dead and injured — and the threat of disease.

Appeals for lorryloads of coffins raised fears that the number of dead might go beyond the 1,000 mark.

Official sources expressed concern over the possibility of cholera or typhus in the stricken area and appealed for more supplies of vaccine.

A Canadian military convoy rolled in from West Germany during the night carrying medical teams and medicines. Another convoy arrived from Austria.

The Italian Interior Ministry said it was sending more than 25,000 beds, 1,690 large tents and clothes for 3,000 homeless to the disaster area.

si, was clutching his only intact possessions — an electric razor and a box of medals.

He is the oldest inhabitant of Maiano, one of the villages that was hit the hardest by Thursday night's quake.

The first thing Mr. Morassi asked for from his rescuers was a cigarette.

RESCUE CONTINUES. — Silvia Fallasca, aged six, is rescued from the debris of her home in Gemona, near Udine, Italy, Friday, after the earthquake which claimed hundreds of lives. (AP wirephoto).



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Seize the moment

The election of Mr. Elias Sarkis as the next President of Lebanon unfortunately has not been carried out in the atmosphere of calm and public confidence that would have been the best way to make a transition from war to peace in the country. That the parliament could even muster a quorum to hold the vote in itself is a commendable act, and a show that the Lebanese people are trying to get a hold of their battered nation and turn it onto the path of sanity. There is an element of courage in the vote yesterday that is not to be overlooked.

The depressing aspects of Mr. Sarkis' selection are, first and foremost, that it took place without even the physical presence of the leftist bloc of Kamal Junblatt in the parliamentary session, and that Mr. Sarkis has come to be identified as the candidate of the right. As such, his selection, which should have been the impetus to an extended period of calm and reconstruction in Lebanon, now looms dangerously as another spark to further aggravate the right-left split in Lebanon.

The double tragedy is that this need not have happened at all.

It is not fair to say that Mr. Sarkis' selection has been railroaded through parliament, but then neither is it correct that he was chosen after a sufficient period of public deliberation. The opposition of Mr. Junblatt to the session of parliament should have been taken with a bit more seriousness on the part of all those people who are truly concerned about the real interests of the Lebanese. The result has been the selection of Elias Sarkis amidst a hail of bullets.

It is traditional in Lebanon that a newly elected political figure is ushered into office with firing-in-the-air celebrations by his supporters. In this case, the firing took place before and during the vote, and was intended to sabotage it, not celebrate it. There are limits to how far one can attribute such displays of ribaldry to the native sense of Lebanese enthusiasm for gunfire.

There is a good chance that Mr. Sarkis can and will offset the opposition of the left with some fast displays of real concern for the welfare of the entire Lebanese nation. He is not in much of a position to do anything right now, at least until President Franjeh resigns. But having been elected in such an inauspicious manner, it would be well worth the effort now to try and win the confidence of all the people in Lebanon by capitalising upon, and even flaunting, the biggest asset Mr. Sarkis can bring to the situation in the country — his impartial, untainted uncompromised willingness to be the servant of his countryfolk, instead of the guardian of any one group in the country.

The Sarkis presidency seems to have gotten off to a dramatic start, at a time when drama in itself is not necessarily what the country needs most. But the element of dramatic passion that runs so strong in the leading personalities in Lebanon can perhaps be used at this precise moment to forge a kinetic link among all the factions in the country, a link that could be strengthened by the focal role of a new face such as that of Elias Sarkis. It is necessary now that Mr. Sarkis try something new in Lebanese politics, and be decisive at a time when all the political leaders of the country are scurrying around, as they have always done, seeking power, privilege and something close to perpetuity. It would be opportune for Mr. Sarkis to seize the moment he has before him and bring to Lebanon a fresh element of public concern, ethical responsibility and unselfish service. He would be a rose among the thorns.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

The Jordanian and Syrian newspapers' commentaries Friday augured well for His Majesty King Hussein's visit to Damascus "within the framework of his periodical meetings with President Hafez Assad to discuss and coordinate various matters between the two countries," in the words of the Royal Court's statement before the visit.

Al Rai says all the Arabs look at the Jordanian-Syrian forward move as a principal axis round which the Arab national struggle now revolves, as much as Israel looks on it as a source of worry for its designs on the occupied Arab lands.

The paper adds: "The Amman-Damascus march is now the only Arab movement within the periphery of the Arab cause after the collective Arab movement had floundered on the Sinai agreement and on the mirage of imploring help from voracious foreign powers..."

The paper believes the Damascus talks, in addition to bilateral coordination, will cover the Lebanese crisis with a view to healing the wounds of "this part of the Arab homeland, after it was turned into an 'incinerator', a source of attrition to Arab power and a fracture in the side of the eastern front."

Al Dustour links Hussein's Damascus visit with Prince Hassan's recent trip to the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait and Oman, and shortly before that to Saudi Arabia, where the Crown Prince worked towards coordination in the

fields of development with these four Arab countries in Jordan's five-year development plan. Al Dustour says Hussein's and Assad's endeavours in framing the political future of this Arab area are being complemented by Hassan's efforts to consolidate inter-Arab development cooperation.

Al Shaab views the importance of the Damascus meeting in terms of the crucial circumstances through which the Arab nation is now passing, due to the Lebanese crisis and the occupation tragedy in Palestine.

The paper reviews at length joint Jordanian-Syrian efforts to stop bloodletting in Lebanon and to support the West Bank uprising and explain the dimensions of Israeli plots before world opinion.

Al Thawra of Damascus, noting the spirited and continuous Syrian efforts to maintain Arab solidarity against the enemy's disruptive attempts, says these efforts indicate capability of the Arab nation to surmount all difficulties and persist in its refusal to yield or give way...

Al Baath newspaper of Damascus scoffs at President Sadat's claim in a recent speech of Egypt's continued support of the Palestine issue. The paper says this attitude, if it was true... hardly makes any difference as long as recent trip to the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait and Oman, and shortly before that to Saudi Arabia, where the Crown Prince worked towards coordination in the



Dean Hussari to attend Islamic conference

AMMAN. — The University of Jordan, represented by the Dean of the Shari'a faculty, Dr. Ahmad Al Hussari, will participate in the Islamic Universities Association conference to start Tuesday in Rabat.

The four-day conference will discuss the message of Islamic education, its relation with general education, and Arab studies in European universities.

The conference will also discuss setting up an Islamic Research Centre.

UAE deducts pay for Palestinians

ABU DHABI, May 8 (R). — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has decided to deduct one day's pay from all salaries for the benefit of Palestinian workers in Israel-occupied territories, officials said here today.

The decision was taken in compliance with a recent decision by the Arab Labour Organisation.

The funds collected would be handed over to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), the officials added.

Pakistan trade delegation expected

An eight member trade delegation from Pakistan arrives here Monday on a three-day visit. The members of the delegation will have meetings with government officials and private businessmen for discussions on increasing trade between Pakistan and Jordan.

The members include representatives from textile, canvas, leather, yarn and thread, carpet and papersack industries in Pakistan.

They will also discuss deals in hosiery goods, handicrafts, sports, goods, agricultural products and ready-made garments.

Bahrain Premier visits Saudi Arabia

BAHRAIN, May 8 (R). — Bahrain Prime Minister Sheikh Khalifa Bin Sulman Al-Khalifa left here today for a three-day official visit to Saudi Arabia.

The Prime Minister was accompanied by three senior ministers and other officials on this visit which he is making at the invitation of Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Fahd, the First Deputy Prime Minister.

Sheikh Khalifa's visit comes a few weeks after a visit to the Gulf island state by King Khalid of Saudi Arabia when it agreed to provide Bahrain with a \$100 million grant and finance the building of a causeway to link the two countries.

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Hassan, Tharwat will visit Iran

AMMAN. — A communiqué issued by the Royal Hashemite Court Saturday announced that Their Highness Crown Prince Hassan and Princess Tharwat will pay an official five-day visit to Iran starting May 12, at the invitation of Iran's Crown Prince Rida Pahlavi.

Exports to EEC mark sharp rise

AMMAN. — Exports to the member states Economic Community (EEC) in 1975 exceeded by far those of 1974, figures released by the Department of Statistics Saturday show. Exports to the EEC in 1975 reached a total value of JD1,979,000, against a mere JD 65,000 in 1974.

As for imports, these totalled JD71,731,000 in 1975, against JD 46,350,000 in 1974.

Exports to EEC countries in 1975 accounted for 50 per cent of overall Jordanian exports for the year, while imports from the EEC totalled 31 per cent of all imports.

Main items exported included raw phosphates, while major commodities imported from the European countries were cars and their spare parts, flour, sugar, wood, pharmaceuticals, electrical appliances, industrial equipment, woolens powdered milk and iron pipes.



Qatari Minister of Labour and Social Affairs, Ali Ahmad Al (centre) with the President of the University of Jordan, Dr. Salam Majali (left).

Pharmaceutical meet scheduled for June

AMMAN. — A conference will be held here starting on June 22 to discuss the establishment in Jordan of an international pharmaceutical industry.

Delegations from 40 pharmaceutical companies will participate in the conference.

Jordan has all the prerequisites for such a project, sources at the Ministry of Industry and Commerce said Saturday, especially as it provides investment facilities rarely available in nearby countries.

Qatari minister heads delegation

AMMAN. — Prime Minister Rifai Saturday morning the Qatari Minister of Labour and Social Affairs, Ali Ahmad Al, and his accompanying delegation.

Mr. Al Ansari is head committee set up by the . mographic conference last Cairo, entrusted to follow plementation of the con resolutions.

Minister of Labour Issa ni also attended the mee Later, Mr. Ansari met President of the Universit dan, Dr. Abdul Salam Ma briefed his guest on the ty's activities and future



Minister of Education, Zouqan Hindawi after opening a exhibition.

NATIONAL BRIEFS

● AMMAN — The Minister of Education, Zouqan Hindawi, Saturday morning opened a children's painting exhibition at the Rostany College here.

● AMMAN — The M State for Foreign Affairs Ibrahim, Saturday rec Greek ambassador to J



A rather typical scene in a downtown Beirut residential quarter.



A barbed-wire barricade straddles the road divider near the race-track and internal security offices region in Beirut.



A view towards parliament square in downtown Beirut. The parliament building is at right.

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Rejuvenated Reagan takes a startled Ford

WASHINGTON, May 8 (R) — President Reagan, his political fortunes revived by a series of dramatic wins in the presidential primaries, is now looking for the knockout blow against President Ford in their battle for the Republican nomination.

Reagan, more optimistic of his chances, is now looking for the knockout blow against President Ford in their battle for the Republican nomination.

Political experts think the election would still be open even if such a major setback for Mr. Ford.

Modern warfare takes high civilian toll

GENEVA, May 7 (R) — Thirteen civilians were killed for every combatant man who died in recent armed conflicts such as Vietnam, according to figures presented today to a Red Cross conference here.

A Red Cross spokesman said civilian casualties in modern warfare had shown a dramatic increase in comparison with this century's previous conflicts.

The spokesman said official figures cited at the 150-state conference on updating the Geneva conventions showed there was one civilian killed for every 20 combatants who died in 1914-18 war, and one civilian died for each combatant killed in World War Two.

The figures were presented to a committee working on the problems of protection for civilians in time of war.



FAMILIAR COUPLE — Iranian Ambassador in Washington Mr. Ardashir Zahedi and Elizabeth Taylor dance at the Iranian Embassy Friday night. Zahedi hosted a party to honour Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield of Montana. (AP wirephoto).

Zimbabwe armed struggle only road to liberation

Black Rhodesian guerrillas are trying to tighten the noose round the white minority government of Prime Minister Ian Smith in their bid to force a change of government. The most dramatic interruption by guerrilla action so far of Rhodesia's road and rail lifelines through South Africa to the outside world.

— Moves by Zambian President Kaunda to extend the operational guerrilla front westward from the Mozambique-Rhodesian border (already fully operational) along the entire length of the Zambezi River between Zambia and Rhodesia.

— Development of a scenario whereby U.S. Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger is confronted during his visits to Tanzania and Zambia (April 25-27) by the president of those two countries — Kaunda and Nyerere — with their reluctant conclusion that only sustained guerrilla warfare can right the wrongs (as they see them) in Rhodesia, and an accompanying request to him that the U.S. make clear where it stands.

The road and rail links to South Africa were cut April 18. Rhodesian authorities declared the road unsafe after four South African tourists riding two motorcycles (three men and a woman) were fired on by guerrillas just outside the Rhodesian town of Nuanetsi. The three men were killed, the woman injured.

The road was still closed April 20. The railway was closed after a bomb damaged the line and some rolling stock — also in the Nuanetsi area — but it was reopened to traffic April 20.

This is the first major African guerrilla activity so far inside Rhodesia at the southern end of its border with Mozambique. (Hitherto most major guerrilla activity has been in the north, in the Mt. Darwin area.)

Rhodesian authorities said about 20 men were thought to have taken part in the April 18 attacks. They are believed to have come from Mozambique and to have used as cover the game reserve, now closed to the public, between the border and Nuanetsi.

In Lusaka, Zambia, a spokesman for one of the Rhodesian black nationalist groups claimed that the guerrillas were members of the Zimbabwe Liberation Army (ZLA) made up of members of the two longtime rival nationalist groups. (Zimbabwe is the African name for Rhodesia.)

There have been persistent reports that the guerrillas were

impatient with the rivalry which split the political leadership of the nationalist movement — Joshua Nkomo on the one hand and, on the other, Bishop Abel Muzorewa and the Rev. Ndabingi Sithole.

Zambian President Kaunda voiced his concern about this split to members of the UN Decolonisation Committee, now in Zambia, saying: "It was essential to ensure a united nationalist movement for this struggle."

This was one of the topics Mr. Kaunda discussed Maputo (formerly Lourenco Marques) with Mozambican President Machel, when he made a visit last month.

But an even more important topic in his talks with Mr. Machel was the opening up of the Zambian border with Rhodesia as an operational guerrilla front and coordinating guerrilla operations there with those already under way from across the Mozambican border.

Hitherto Mr. Kaunda has held back because, like President Nyerere of Tanzania, he had hoped that constitutional changes in favour of blacks in Rhodesia could be brought about speedily through negotiation — not force.

A spokesman for the UN Decolonisation Committee — which had heard President Nyerere of Tanzania in Dar es Salaam before going on the meet Mr. Kaunda in Zambia — confirmed that both presidents now were agreed that "armed struggle was the only viable alternative for liberating Zimbabwe."

Boycott list is updated

AMMAN. — The Minister of Finance and Customs, Salem Mas'adeh, Saturday decided to lift the names of a number of British, American and Singapore companies off the Boycott of Israel list, and entered the names of new Indian, Italian, Greek, Maltese and Dutch companies.

Ships flying the colours of Panama and Singapore were also boycotted, while Norwegian and Singapore vessels were removed from the list.

None of the companies or ships were identified, according to the normal boycott practices.

IN PERSPECTIVE Can Lebanon's new president pull the country together?

By Jenab Tutunji

Finally Lebanon has a new president. Let us hope that his term of office will be more conducive to peace and national unity than that of his predecessor, Mr. Suleiman Franjeh.

Mr. Sarkis was elected by two thirds of the members of parliament (66 votes). Unfortunately the remaining third were clearly opposed to Mr. Sarkis' election — twenty nine deputies failed to attend and three cast blank ballots.

There can be no question that parliament got the man it wants. Mr. Sarkis enjoys a clear majority there as well as clear support from the majority of the representatives of Lebanon's confessional communities.

Equally clearly however, Mr. Sarkis does not enjoy the support of the majority of the combatants in the Lebanese civil war. The left accounts for at least half the armed strength in the country.

Without the support or the neutrality of the left, Mr. Sarkis can achieve nothing.

The leftwingers have only recently threatened to go on fighting unless their 17-point reform plan is agreed to.

Mr. Sarkis therefore has a problem. Nevertheless, Mr. Sarkis' election is a fait accompli. His supporters have so far scored a coup.

Mr. Sarkis seems to have planned for the future.

The former Central Bank governor enjoys the support of the Christian rightwing.

Thursday, he received tacit if indirect support from the Mufti of the republic, who declared following a meeting with the then presidential aspirant that he was in favour of the parliamentary meeting being held on schedule. As Mr. Jumblatt was against the meeting, this can only be construed as support for Mr. Sarkis.

The new president also enjoys the support of the leader of the largest religious community in Lebanon, Shi'ite Imam Musa

Sadr.

Mr. Sarkis appeared to be extending the possibility of a compromise between the position of the Lebanese left and the country's religious leaders. During his meeting with the Mufti, he was closely questioned on the touchy problem of laicisation, which tops the list of leftist demands but is a sensitive issue for the religious. He adroitly explained that his view on the matter was that it "was closer to the cancellation of political confessionalism than to laicisation." A bit cryptic but it could contain the germ of a possible reconciliation with the left.

Until the new president has a chance to try out his hand at political manoeuvring — Mr. Sarkis is a highly successful technocrat who saw Lebanon through the intra bank crisis — someone will have to keep order in the country.

If the left cannot be reconciled, then it will have to be neutralised. This can be achieved if the Palestinians withdraw their support for Mr. Jumblatt, and if the Palestine Liberation Army and Saika undertake the difficult task of keeping order in the country, and restraining their leftist allies.

Order will have to be guaranteed by Syria. A Phalangist delegation returned from Damascus only two days ago. PLO leader Yasser Arafat returned from consultations in Damascus Friday. Saika leader Zuhair Muh-sen and Popular Democratic Front's Naif Hawatmeh have also very recently consulted with President Assad. It is safe to assume then that some guarantees must have been given and received — otherwise Mr. Sarkis would not have been elected.

There is little doubt that if anyone can guarantee a Lebanese settlement, Syria can. Damascus might not be seeing eye to eye with Lebanon's leftists at the moment, yet it remains true that objectively speaking it has considerable leverage with them.

Can Syria see it through?

Lebanon's new president, Elias Sarkis: successful technocrat who shuns limelight

BEIRUT, May 8, (Agencies) — Lebanon's new president, Elias Sarkis, is a technocrat who has been Governor of the Central Bank for nine years.

He narrowly lost the 1970 presidential race to Mr. Suleiman Franjeh, but has generally held himself aloof from the clamorous Lebanese political scene.

Mr. Sarkis, 51, did not publicly promote his own candidacy when Mr. Franjeh came under increasing pressure to resign as president this year.



Elias Sarkis pictured during a press conference in Beirut last week.

His backers point to his record as an efficient administrator with few political enemies, valuable qualities for any man who aims to lead Lebanon out of its destructive civil conflict.

It is also widely reported that he enjoys the support of Syria, which is deeply involved in trying to end the crisis here.

Syrian leaders preferred Mr. Sarkis, press reports said, to the other leading contender for the presidency, veteran politician Raymond Edde, who is believed here to be too independent-minded for Damascus' taste.

Mr. Sarkis was born on July 20, 1924, in the village of Shabaniyeh in the hill country southeast of Beirut.

Unlike many establishment figures in Lebanon, he does not come from a wealthy family. Circumstances forced him to interrupt his schooling, and he worked his way through St Joseph University, where he received a law degree in 1948.

He joined a law firm and in 1953 he became a judge at the audit office, (cour des comptes), which monitors official spending.

His work attracted the favourable attention of the then army commander, General Fuad Chehab, and his career blossomed rapidly when General Chehab became president in 1958.

He became chief of the president's cabinet in 1962, a post he held for five years.

However general Chehab's presidency became increasingly unpopular because of the widespread use of the army intelligence service (deuxieme bureau). The unpopularity rubbed off on Mr. Sarkis as one of the president's principal advisers.

In 1967 President Charles Helou appointed him governor of the Central Bank of Lebanon. A year later, the intra bank failed and Mr. Sarkis is generally recognised for righting the situation of the country's banks in the wake of the intra collapse.

He presided over the implementation of thorough reforms of the banking laws which restored international confidence in Beirut as the Switzerland of the Middle East.

In 1970, he was put forward as a presidential candidate by supporters of General Chehab, and was favoured to win. But he lost the ballot in the 99-house chamber of deputies by just one vote.

Mr. Sarkis promptly resumed his work at the Central Bank and was reappointed governor in 1974 by President Franjeh.

Like Mr. Edde, Mr. Sarkis is a bachelor. But unlike the gregarious Mr. Edde, he avoids the limelight and carefully guards his privacy.

Mr. Sarkis is Lebanon's youngest president since the country achieved independence in 1945.

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France to resume production of Transall transport planes

PARIS, May 7, (R) — France's after Egyptian Vice-Premier and state-run Aerospaceplane company War Minister General Abdel Gha-will resume production of the Transall military transport plane March. Egypt expects to get six in 1977 to meet demand from Hercules C-130 transports from Egypt and other export markets, and has turned the firm said today.

Egypt has ordered at least 20 of the twin-engine aircraft, made in service. Turkey bought 20 and jointly by France and West Germany, officials said.

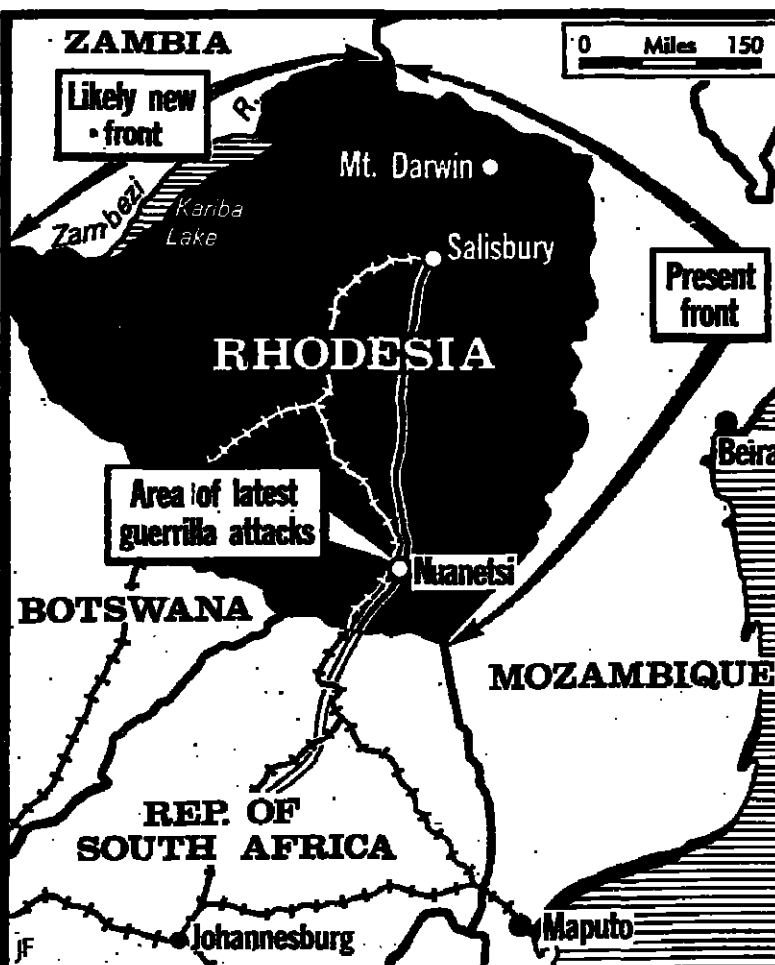
The French air force has also ordered 25, to add to the 50 it already has in service.

Production of the plane, powered 180 were turned out. Today's announcement said 75 transall would be made after the Assembly line reopened in 1977.

The cost of each plane in 1972 was 40 million francs (about four million sterling). The company did not say what the price of the new series would be.

The Egyptian order was placed

Filler: Mrs. Sally Cutler at the Island Club, Limassol, Cyprus, on Tuesday, February 26, 1974, achieved 5,010 pancake tosses in 65 minutes.



BRIEF Brezhnev promoted rank of marshal

MOSCOW, May 8, (R) — Soviet Union Party chief Leonid Brezhnev has been promoted to military rank of Marshal of the Soviet Union, it was officially announced today.

The promotion came only a year after the Kremlin leader was promoted to the rank of General of the Army to mark the 30th anniversary of the end of World War II in which he served as a poet.



Marshal Brezhnev.

gives Mr. Brezhnev a senior to that of the new Defence Minister, Mr. Dmitry Ustinov, was made General of the Army on his appointment to the following the death of former Minister Marshal Grechko in 1976.

Official announcement, issued by the Tass news agency, the party leader had been promoted to the rank of Marshal by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, the parliament, in his capacity as chairman of the Soviet Union's Supreme Council, about which little is known, is believed to be an honorary body overseeing both armed forces and the defence industries.

Geisel ends U.K. visit

Brazil signs £986m steel complex deal

LONDON, May 7 (R). — Brazilian president Ernesto Geisel flew home tonight after cementing important new Anglo-Brazilian economic ties during a four-day state visit to Britain.

As the president left government officials here said British goods and services worth 330 million sterling were ordered by Brazil during the visit.

In addition, they said there was agreement for three joint ventures in Brazilian steel, rail and offshore oil development whose financial value could not yet be estimated.

A consortium of Western European firms and banks meanwhile signed an agreement today to finance and build a 986 million pound steel mill complex in Brazil.

The consortium includes West German, French, Italian and German manufacturers.

The British firms Davy Ashmore International Limited and Morgan Greenfield Limited will lead the consortium to provide 500 million sterling of equipment for Brazil's planned new steel complex at a cominas in the state of Minas Gerais, which is to go into operation in 1979.

According to a government statement the value of British goods for the planned steel works will be 100 million sterling.

Informed sources feel British contributions to Brazilian development projects and industry could reach the 1,000 million sterling

mark within a decade.

Although the controversial visit has been a success on the business front, it was boycotted by rank and file members of the ruling Labour Party and a target for leftwing pickets who protested against alleged violations of human rights in Brazil.

One of the most important results of the visit was a joint statement by President Geisel and

Prime Minister James Callaghan pledging cooperation in the exploration of Brazilian offshore oil deposits.

At the same time the British Steel Corporation (Redpath, Dorman Long Limited) and the Brazilian National Steel Company ratified an agreement today to transfer British technology to construct offshore oil platforms in Brazil.

Foreign oil companies may re-enter Vietnam

PARIS, May 7, (R) — South Vietnamese Foreign Minister Mrs. Nguyen Thi Binh said in an interview published here Friday that foreign oil companies could resume work in Vietnam.

In an interview in Saigon with the French newspaper Le Monde, Mrs. Binh specifically mentioned the Anglo-Dutch Shell company and America's Gulf Oil.

She added that a code for foreign investments would be drawn up.

"We are ready to cooperate with foreign countries and oil companies including those which operated in Vietnam before the liberation of the country, such as Shell and Gulf Oil," she was quoted as saying.

"But such cooperation will be on the basis of mutual interest and in full respect of our sovereignty and independence," she said.

Some foreign companies were looking into the possibilities of off-shore oil under the former anti-communist regime which fell a year ago in South Vietnam.

Mrs. Binh said that if the U.S. wanted normal relations with Vietnam, it would have to stop what she called its hostile policy and "honour its pledges regarding the reconstruction of our country."

The Vietnamese position is that the U.S. committed itself to such help under the Paris peace agreement of 1973.

Mrs. Binh said statements by U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger favouring normalisation of relations were part of this year's election campaign in the U.S. She told Le Monde correspondent Patrice de Beer that Vietnam was seeking genuine neutrality in Southeast Asia.



LOCOMOTION No. 1. — Making its first run under steam in north-east England is 'Locomotion No. 1', a full-scale replica of George Stephenson's original railway engine — the locomotive of the world's first railway passenger service. It was built to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the historic first run from Shildon to Stockton in County Durham on the 31st of August in 1825. The original Stephenson engine, which is preserved at Darlington, could not be used for the anniversary celebrations between July and September this year, as it does not meet present-day safety requirements.

Tighter import-restrictions to affect American shoppers

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CSM) — U.S. shoppers' choices of lower-priced foreign goods are likely to be restricted by an emerging trade trend.

Some 35 industry groups claim imports are hurting their business and have asked the International Trade Commission to put additional restriction—in the form of tighter import quotas, higher tariffs, or both—on competing foreign products.

The variety of goods on which import restrictions are being sought ranges from shoes to screws to stereo sound equipment.

And the number of industries seeking such protection probably will increase in the wake of a presidential decision generally supporting the first major request under the Trade Act of 1974 for import protection, predicts Conference Board international economist James McCarthy.

President Ford declined March

16 to impose the quotas on imports of so-called specialty steel, which had been sought by the steel industry and recommended by the Trade Commission.

But the President noted that he would impose quotas unless the principal steel exporters—Japan, West Germany, Canada, France, and Sweden—"voluntarily" agreed to cut back their shipments within 90 days.

The President has the power under the Trade Act to modify or reject Trade Commission decisions subject to congressional veto.

The key reason for the actual and anticipated increase in the number of firms seeking protection from imports is "trade law changes which make it easier for domestic industries to meet qualifications for protection," Mr. McCarthy says.

Under the 1962 Trade Act, firms seeking restrictions on competing imports had to show that the foreign products were "in major part" responsible for the affected industry's sales, profit, or employment slump.

The Trade Act of 1974 requires less clear-cut proof of import-related damage from firms seeking protection. The new law asks only that firms show imports have increased while the domestic industry is injured or threatened with injury and that imports are "a substantial cause" of the injury.

In addition to legislative changes, election-year politics are expected to play a role in increasing protectionist moves. Seeking import restrictions in an election year is "good timing," notes an official in the U.S. Chamber of Commerce international group. "It puts the administration a bit on the spot."

The political appeal of protect-

ionist action can be seen in the number of workers who claim their unemployment was caused by imports and have sought assistance under the provisions of the Trade Act.

Approximately 343,000 workers from 636 different firms or industries have asked for assistance as a result of what they claimed was import-related unemployment.

The number of applications for assistance is "higher than expected—about the same as last year," notes Mac Shield of the U.S. Labour Department's Bureau of International Labour Affairs.

To date \$1.9 million has been spent to relocate or assist import-impacted workers in finding new jobs and securing needed retraining. Some \$30 million has been spent so far to supplement workers unemployment benefits.

Because of a substantial backlog of unpaid workers and other complex administrative accounting factors, the \$30-million total understates the cost and scope of the programme.

Requests for import-impact assistance from firms and individuals paradoxically come at a time when the U.S. balance-of-payments position is among the most favourable in recent history.

Robert Leftwich, a Citibank economist, projects that U.S. imports will grow 15.3 per cent during 1976 to \$113 billion while exports will rise 8.4 per cent to \$116 billion in the same period. If his projections are accurate, the U.S. would end the year with a \$3-billion surplus in its balance of payments.

The economist attributes the faster rise in U.S. imports to the fact that "imports are more responsive to income changes than are exports."

Ford asks Congress for \$28m for Lake Placid Olympics

WASHINGTON, May 7 (AFP). — President Ford today asked Congress to open 28 million dollars' worth of credits to finance construction of facilities for the 1980 Winter Olympics to be staged at Lake Placid, New York State.

The president said the money would go towards building a 9,000 capacity roofed stadium with two skating rinks, a 90-metre ski-jump, a 400-metre outdoor skating track and a toboggan run.

This will be the second time the winter games have come to the United States and the second

time in Lake Placid. They were last held there in 1932.

Lake Placid Olympic Committee Chairman Ronald McKenzie later presented Mr. Ford with an admission ticket to the winter games bearing the number one. The ticket was valid, he said, provided the president, a keen skier, came to inaugurate the new ski-run.

Accepting the invitation, Mr. Ford said he hoped that with federal government aid Lake Placid would be able to rival the great European winter sports resorts.

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Japan-China transaction below par at Canton F

TOKYO, May 7 (AFP) — Japanese import transactions, except at a similar fair held this trade fair at Canton, China, will total about 200 to 225 million dollars, it was reported here today.

Europe faces water shortage

GENEVA, May 7 (R). — Five European countries do not have enough water now and seven more will run short by the end of the century, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) said today.

But there was still enough water in Europe to meet overall demand for the next 25 years at least, a study prepared by the ECE secretariat in Geneva said.

But often water supplies were not where they were most needed or available at the time of greatest need.

"The amount of usable water has actually been reduced in some countries by the effects of pollution," the ECE reported.

Cyprus, East Germany, Hungary, Malta and the Ukraine were already short of water. Belgium, Bulgaria, Luxembourg, Poland, Portugal, Romania and Turkey expected to have shortage by the year 2000, the ECE said.

The report listed Britain — now suffering from its worst drought in 200 years — as having enough water to meet current and future needs.

The total value is down 20 per cent from that at a similar fair held this autumn, Japan's Kyodo News reported from Cantoning Japanese traders.

Japanese traders attend fair, which opened on for a month-long run, said had failed to conclude contracts with Japan the Kyodo stated.

China has tried to e Japan products which once promised to buy but because of the recession, id.

Chinese officials asked traders to consider trade in terms of annual instead of deals concluded current fair.

Observers emphasized current fair was held by tails of a new trade been set out by the go of Premier Hua Kuo-feng was appointed only last

They noted Chinese statements that, despite self-reliance, their count ic trade policy remained aged.

Meanwhile, efforts in al production were exp an official of the revy committee of the first ag machinery factory in outskirts, Kyodo added.

The official said the had no technicians unit of 1968, but 100 work produced a hand-driven in 42 days. Now it has cians and 550 workers and last year's output 3,000 units, he said.

He added that an asse would go into operation a few years' time.

UAE oil policy need better integration

ABU DHABI, May 7 (R) — A weekly newspaper today called on the

seven member-states of the Arab Emirates to low up the merger of forces with a merged petroleum department.

The UAE states dect today to merge all mil a move seen by othe major step towards the federation of Gu ated in 1971.

Al Watan said that possible to negotiate international oil compa out laying a sound b petrochemical industry emirates as long as they parate petroleum depart

A federal petroleum exists only on paper, of the department of Mr. Manaa Al Otaiba Otaiba complained in t national assembly this the different emirates wing lack of interest it ting with his ministry.

Oil ministry officials that they only knew ab velopments in the diff tes from the foreign pr

Mr. Otaiba said here that the UAE was now an average of 1.9 mil of crude oil a day, of million was exported by abi, 300,000 barrels by I 60,000 by Sharjah.

Quite a haul

HYERES, Southern France, (AFP). — A local fisherman caught more than he bargained for here Friday night when he pulled in his nets to find a scuba diver caught up in them.

His astonishment turned to anger when he found the diver had a plastic bag full of fish tied round his waist.

The diver is now facing charges not only of stealing fish from the nets, but also of indulging in underwater fishing at night.

Abu Dhabi cement plant inaugurated

AL AIN, May 8, (R) A new cement plant started production here today, the second plant to start production this year in the booming United Arab Emirates (UAE).

The Japanese-built plant which cost 120 million dirhams (17 million sterling) was dedicated in this oasis city of the state of Abu Dhabi, the UAE's largest emirate. It is expected to produce 600 tons of cement a day but plans are already underway to expand production.

The UAE's first cement plant with a production capacity of 250 tons a day was opened earlier this year at the northern emirate of Ras Al Khaimah.

Informed sources said however that the production of both plants would not be enough to meet the rapidly growing needs of this oil-rich country's booming building industry.

Coal producers to coordinate policies

GENEVA, May 7, (R) — Representatives of the world's main coal-producing countries have called for a world energy policy that takes full account of the potential of their industry, an International Labour Organisation (ILO) spokesman said today.

Government, employer and worker delegates from 19 countries meeting in the ILO's Coal Mines Committee asked Director General Francis Blanchard of France to continue contacts for a special conference to establish a world energy policy.

The committee heard the coal industry had increased production dramatically in recent years and new mining methods had come into use, spokesman said.

A communique on the nine-day meeting said nearly one million accidents occurred in coal mining each year. About 900 were fatal, and new dangers had arisen from the speed of modern vehicles and the power of machinery used in addition to age-old hazards of falling ground, heat, dust and gas the communique said.

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STEAKHOUSE

— Firas Wings Hotel — Jebel L'weibdeh, Amman. Tel. 22103/4. Choice of three set menus daily for lunch and à la Carte. Open for lunch 12-3 p.m. and dinner 7-12 p.m. kindly book your table

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هكذا من الأنس

One thousand years of Islamic magnificence

By Susan Green Field

Special to the Jordan Times

LONDON. — The Hayward Gal-

lery is on London's South Bank

the River Thames and is part

of the complex comprising the

Festival Theatre and the recently

opened new National Theatre, the

heart of Britain's perform-

ing and cultural arts. It is here

that this acreage of modern

concrete buildings that the

Islamic Exhibition is draw-

ing large and appreciative crowds,

as the biggest and most impres-

sive exhibition in the World of

Islam Festival.

Opened last month by Her Ma-

jesty Queen Elizabeth, as the offi-

cial inauguration of the Festival,

the Arts of Islam Exhibition can

only be described as magnificent.

The design of the Hayward Gal-

lery is such that an impression of

light and space dominate, its vast

halls and floors illuminated by

the exotic colour and design of the

precious objects on display.

The carpets of course are spec-

tacular, in glowing jewel colours

and also in the muted pastels of

old intricately worked silk; then

the eye is caught by the brilliant

blue of ceramic tiles, with arabes-

ques in gold and black; the deli-

cacy of glass, the gleam of gold,

bronze and silver, the solid and

ageless carvings in wood and stone

all creating breath-taking first

impression and a triumph for the

designers of this unique Ex-

hibition.

More than 650 objects are on

display from 125 collections from

25 countries—impressive statisti-

cs, representing an impressive

level of international cooperation.

Over a thousand years of Islamic

arts are covered in this Exhi-

bition from an area extending from

Spain to India and from Central

Asia to Egypt.

One of the biggest problems

faced by the organisers, the Arts

Council of Great Britain in asso-

ciation with the World of Islam

Festival, is that there are no uni-

que masterpieces in Islamic art in

the sense that this is understood

in the West. There are no Piccas-

so or Rembrandt equivalents in

Islamic art as the beauty and rich-

ness of design and execution are

everywhere apparent. In architec-

ture, in textiles such as silks and

carpets, in calligraphy, ceramics,

carved wood and precious stones

and metalwork inlaid with gold

and silver, the Islamic genius is

displayed in a delight in ornamen-

tation and in the lavish decora-

tion of objects of everyday and

immediate use.

To depict architecture the ful-

lest and finest expression of Isl-

amic culture, the Exhibition sup-

plements the smaller, more trans-

portable architectural displays

with a multi-screen slide projec-

tion, showing some of the greatest

buildings in the world from the

Alhambra in Granada to the Taj

Mahal. This was my first experi-

ence of a multi-screen projection,

and with the comfort of the seats

in the darkened auditorium and

the almost mesmeric poetry of the

commentary, it was a vivid expe-

rience.

The photographs, specially tak-

en for the Exhibition by Roland

and Sabrina Michaud, were selec-

ted from about 10,000 and as they

overlap and blend on the screen,

an evocative experience of real-

ism is created, especially in the

brilliant blues and golds of Is-

lamic art and the gardens of the Al-

hambra. The stated purpose of the

projection is to create something of

the feeling of being within an Is-

lamic building, where the eye can

travel across the images presen-

ted as it might when viewing ac-

tual architecture.

The exhibits themselves how-

ever, are not in any way static or

"museum-like" in their glass cas-

es. A stucco fragment can be li-

ghtly touched with fingers tracing

the delicacy of 8th century carv-

ing, the patina of a 12th century

Mimbar from Mosul, Iraq glows

with history with its Kufic inscrip-

tions and carved inlays in ancient

wood. Paris of carved wooden

doors, probably from mosques,

echo the patterns of contemporary

book bindings, decorated manu-

script margins and floral carpets,

all designs reflecting the Muslim

adherence to calligraphy and the

Qur'an as divine inspiration in art

forms.

As Islam spread across the co-

ntinents in the years after Moham-

med's death, regional art forms

naturally developed, with Persian

miniatures depicting the courtly

life, hunting and the pleasures of

the garden and nature, and the

naturalistic bronzes from Islamic

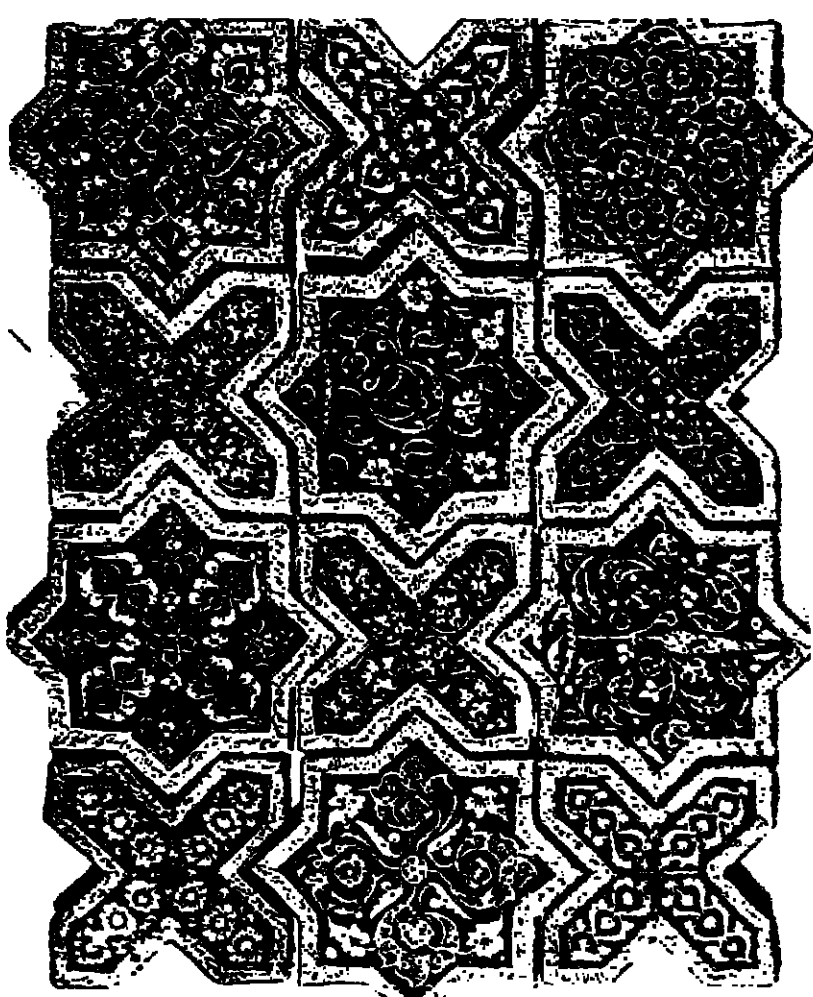
Persia, typified by the Waterjug

or Aquamanile lent by the Len-

ingrad Museum. In cast bronze

inlaid with silver, this is the most

distinguished artifact extant of



These tiles represent the first major production of the Kashan, Persian 14th century potters after the lull following the Mongol invasions. They came from the Imamzade Yahya in Veramin, south-east of Teheran and by the end of the 19th century all the tiling had been removed and is now scattered among numerous collections. The inscriptions on the tiles are all quotations from the Qur'an.

its type and pre-dates the Bob-rinkski Bucket, both of which, ap- no space to exhibit contemporary Islamic art to complete this uni- que portrayal of a culture describ- ed as "familiar and little under- stood, exotic and severe, luxuri- ous and mundane." Until July 4th the Hayward Gal- lery will be the Mecca for all who seek the heart of Islam through its glorious history of artistic ex- cellence—the Arts of Islam Exhi- bition is a definite "must" for vis- itors to London this summer.

Spring in Moscow is a good season for everybody

MOSCOW, RUSSIA (CSM). — Yesterday morning the birds in the park sang their hearts out. And today there is not a fur hat to be seen in Moscow—except perhaps where the provincial farmers come and go at the Kiev and Kazan railroad stations.

Spring, it seems, is here at last. Of course, the buds have not burst, or even swelled, as far as the eye can see.

A shelf of dirty ice still lines the path. And the pond still is sufficiently frozen so that the disgruntled mallards must waddle rather than swim on it—and a dog cavorts across it while chasing the ducks.

But it has not snowed for two nights in a row. Young men are opening their jackets to the warm new sun—and blossoming out in Lenin caps, workers caps, trillies, and even bare heads.

Women, though they are still wearing their bright fuzzy knitted hats, are no longer bundled up in to shapeless lumps.

One lady, in an excess of Medi- terranean imagination, shields her face from the slanting northern rays of unaccustomed light with an umbrella-parasol.

It was an excellent winter this year, with five solid months of snow and ice for skating and skating. But enough is enough. Every- one is ready for spring—and even willing to pay \$3.50 for a hot- house rose to prove that this gen- tle season has arrived.

In parks there is a flurry of ac-

tivity, along with pockets of sp- ring fever. Already men have be- gun painting the rowboats blue or green for the opening of the ponds.

Khaki-clad soldiers are out in force repairing benches and lamps, unboarding the soda water vend- ing machines, and carrying canis- ters of pitch from here to there, in hopes of having everything in order by May Day.

The grandmothers who daily swept the top layer of snow off the benches and paths all winter long now see their work vindicat- ed. At least the gullies they chop-

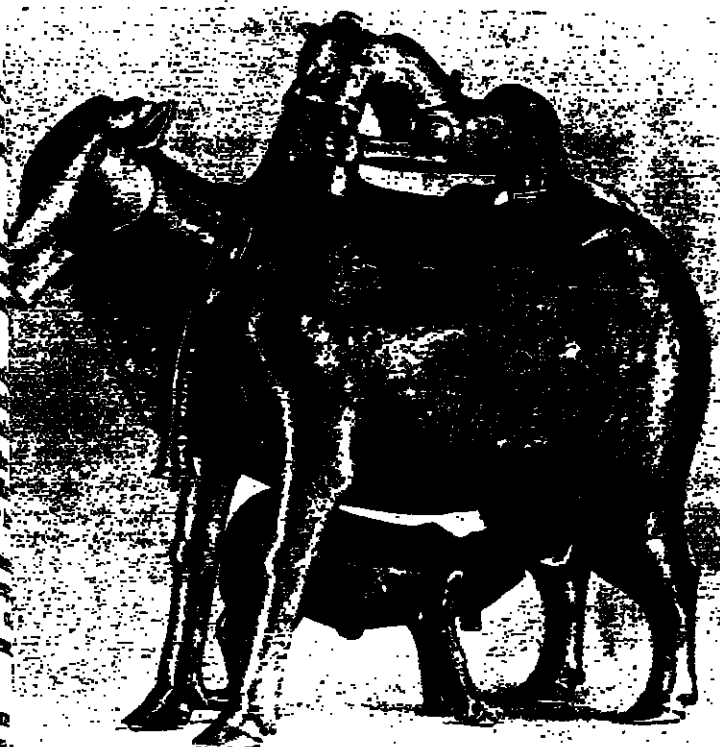
ped in the solid-packed snow a fortnight ago have drained the melting waters from the flooded woods. The paths that were slush a few days ago have dried to yield- ing earth. Even the mounds of dirt that traced the vanished snow banks have been swept away.

Now these pensioners can turn their attention to spading the flo- werbeds for the new transplants that will arrive shortly. And a few of them can relax enough to lay down their brooms, sit on the ben- ches, and chat.

For everybody, it's a good se- ason.



With snow gone, life returns to Moscow's markets.



Aquamanile from Persia (1206) of cast bronze incised and inlaid silver portrays a suckling cow being attacked by a lion. Its hole is in the lion's neck (the lid is missing) and the cow's head acts as a pourer. Historically, the importance of the object is in the inscription which gives details of the two makers, caster and decorator as well as the owner and date — "This cow, calf and were all three cast at the same time with the help of God, the the nouchiser, by the labour of Ruzba ibn Afridin ibn Barzin to its owner Shah Barzin ibn Afridin ibn Barzin. Work of a Muhammad ibn Abu'l-Qasim the decorator. In Muharram 603."



Bob-rinkski Bucket is known traditionally as the Bob-rinkski bucket after a its owner — its fame is due to the quality of its decoration comprises a variety of decorative scripts, and scenes in which drink make music fight with staves or while away the hours of the night. One of the inscriptions reads "With good fortune, wealth, well-being, happiness, Mohammed's intercession, honour, gratitude, victoriousness, success, happiness, God's grace, ease, strength, health, order, strength, glory, resurrection, greater, favour, perpetuity, praiseworthiness, power, fortune, and long life to its owner." Originating from Herat (Afghanistan) the 12th century bucket is made of cast bronze incised and with silver and copper, inlaid with niello.



Originating from Northern Mesopotamia, this late 12th or early 13th century Seljuk cast bronze door-knocker is in the form of two winged dragons with bird-heads as tails. It is one of a pair which was attached to the doors of Ulu Cami in Cizre, Turkey and is notable not only for its beautiful design but also for its planetary symbolism. The dragon represents the planetary ellipse and the knot a loop, the orbit of the moon. It also had talismanic powers, so the dragon door knocker was both ornament and protection for the building on which it was hung.



This stucco fragment lent by the National Museum, Damascus, is from the facade of Qasr al-Hayr al-Gharbi in Syria and is of the Umayyad period, 8th century. The design of a spray of leaves, fruits and grapes shows a combination of stylisation and semi-naturalistic treatment, and was probably hand moulded followed by carving the partly set plaster.

Television

Channel 3 & 6:	Channel 6:
6.00 Quran	7.30 News in Hebrew
6.20 Cartoons	7.45 Varieties
6.40 Arabic programme	8.30 Shirley's world
8.00 News in Arabic	9.00 Man and machine
	9.10 The explorers
Channel 3:	10.00 News in English
7.30 Reportage	10.15 Hawaii 5-0 (on both channels)
8.30 Arabic series	
9.15 Wrestling	

Amman Airport

Departures:	
10.30 Rome	10.30 Kuwait (KAC)
11.00 Cairo	12.00 Cairo (EA)
11.15 Kuwait (KAC)	12.20 Dair El Zour - Damas-
12.00 Beirut (MEA)	cus (SA)
13.00 Cairo (EA)	14.35 Dubai, Doha (GA)
13.05 Aqaba (SA)	15.05 Aqaba (SA)
13.05 London (BA)	17.30 Cairo
15.45 Doha, Dubai (GA)	17.40 Paris
15.45 Damascus (SA)	17.55 London
19.45 Baghdad, Kuwait	18.20 Copenhagen, Frank-
20.00 Bahrain, Bangkok	furt
21.00 Jeddah	18.55 Amsterdam, Brussels,
21.30 Teheran	Geneva
	19.00 Rome
2.20 Dubai, Abu Dhabi	19.40 Beirut (MEA)

Radio

(On 856 KHZ):	
7.00 Breakfast show	
7.30 News Bulletin	
7.45 News Reports	
8.00 Sign off	
12.00 Pop session (part I)	
13.00 News Summary	
13.03 Pop session (part II)	
14.00 News Bulletin	
14.10 Radio magazine	
14.30 Pop music USA	
15.00 Concert hour	
16.00 Old favourites	
16.30 Easy listening	
17.00 Pop session (part III)	
18.00 News Summary	
18.05 Listener's choice	
19.00 News Bulletin	
19.10 News reports	
19.30 Sign off	

Market Prices

Apples (golden): 160-200	Potatoes (local): 80-110
Apples (starken): 200-240	Peas: 120-160
Apples (double red): 260-340	Raddish: 60-80
Bananas: 150-190	Spinach: 60-100
Bell pepper: 120-180	Tangerines: 130-160
Caniflower: 80-110	Tomatoes: 120-160
Carrots (yellow): 40-65	
Cucumbers (small): 120-160	
Cucumbers (large): 50-80	
Cherry: 200-240	
Eggplant (small): 120-150	
Grape leaves: 160-220	
Green beans: 160-220	
Garlic (green): 70-100	
Hot pepper: 120-180	
Lemon: 100-140	
Lettuce (small): 30-50	
Lettuce (large): 60-80	
Horse beans: 50-70	
Marrow (small): 50-80	
Marrow (large): 20-30	
Orange: 80-110	
Onions (green): 80-140	
Onions (dry): 70-100	
Onions (local): 70-100	
Onion (imported): 80-110	

Tonight's Emergencies

Doctors:	Dr. Ramzi Mazzawi: (56788)
Dr. Sa'adi Dabour: (39744)	
Pharmacies:	Jacob: (44945)
Nihad: (30844)	
Assalam: (38730)	
Taxis:	Khayyam: (41451)
Firas: (23427)	
Hamra: (44833)	

Tonight's TV Features

HAWAII 5-0	LOOSE ENDS GET HIT
Key witness against gangster retracts his testimony when threatened by gangster's underlings but McGarrett stands firm.	
SHIRLEY'S WORLD	THOU SHALT NOT BE FOUND
Shirley uses her own devious methods to patch up a famous film star's broken marriage.	
THE EXPLORERS	ALEXANDER VON HUMBOLDT
German explorer Alexander von Humboldt on a mission to South America where he discovered fish and plants unknown to Europe at the time.	

Tito condemns "outside advice" on European communists

BELGRADE, May 8 (AFP) — Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito today condemned "outside" efforts to prevent communist participation in Western European governments.

In an interview with the Athens daily Kathimerini, Marshal Tito said it was "absurd" to keep "vital forces" on the sidelines in certain western countries, but that it was "a domestic affair in those countries and they would surely find solutions which would conform to their national interests."

In what observers considered to be a clear reference to the United States, Marshal Tito said: "In any case, no one on the outside is authorised to offer advice or to impose solutions in the name of a broader solidarity or of a so-called concern for the future of those countries."

He went on to say that there was "even less" call for "threats or blackmail from bloc positions."

Marshal Tito, who is scheduled to begin an official visit to Greece on May 10, also urged Balkan nations to settle their differences through cooperation "without nourishing the illusion that third parties could help them in an unselfish manner."

He said, he was confident that Greece and Turkey could, despite "the serious and complex problems affecting their relations," overcome their problems, establish relations of confidence and contribute to the settlement of the Cyprus issue through mutual efforts.

Madrid continues liberalisation moves with release of 3 men

MADRID, May 8, (R) — The government of King Juan Carlos took another step towards liberalisation today when it ordered the release of three members of the opposition held since April 3 after an anti-government demonstration.

The three, who include prominent leftist economist Ramon Tamames, were jailed for refusing to pay government-ordered fines levied for allegedly being leaders of the demonstration.

The measure followed the announcement by the government last night of details of its programme to reform the authoritarian system left by General Franco.

The proposed laws, which include the establishment of a two-house legislature largely elected by universal suffrage and the creation of free trade unions now must go to the rightwing dominated Cortes (parliament) for its approval.

The possibility that the laws may run into difficulties getting through the Cortes was heightened today when a regional group of Cortes members asked that deputies as well as the government be allowed to push laws through the body on an urgent basis.

Cortes President Torcuato Fernandez Miranda recently agreed to a government request to speed up parliamentary debate on reform.

UNCTAD set for hard bargaining

[Continued from page 1] while they think hard about the implications, few delegations are willing to go on record with an early judgement.

The other new idea to be aired came from French Finance Minister Jean-Pierre Fourcade. In conversations with newsmen and in his speech in plenary session, he said the world did not need yet another international organisation — and that seems to be the main reason why France opposes the resources bank.

M. Fourcade said he would like to see the World Bank's capital reinforced to enable it to do more to finance investment in the production and development of raw materials. The World Bank has the necessary experts to do the job properly, he said.

On buffer stock financing, M. Fourcade said first individual commodity agreements should be worked out, and some time after they were established, creation of a central fund might be useful to back up the existing funds for individual commodities.

Nairobi's Kenyatta Conference Centre stood deserted today after the first hectic week of meetings, as most of the 3,000 delegates and officials seized the chance to go big game sightseeing in Kenya's safariland.

He noted that relations between Yugoslavia and Greece had always been "very good," except "during the period of the military regime" in Athens.

Marshal Tito expressed support for detente in general as long as it promoted peace but said he opposed detente "if it freezes situations and slows the emancipation of peoples."

He went on to say that the "strengthening of the structure of blocs goes against security. A serious stagnation can occur in Europe if that truth is not understood."

\$90b Japanese Budget approved

TOKYO, May 8 (AFP) — The Japanese Diet (parliament) today approved a budget of almost \$90,000 million for the fiscal year 1976, a 14.1 per cent increase over last year's total.

The cabinet submitted the proposed budget of 24,296,000 million yen (\$80,986 billion) to the Diet at the beginning of the current parliamentary session in January, but approval was delayed by the investigation of the Lockheed scandal.

Japan will be spending 0.9 per cent of its gross national product on defence in 1976.

The budget also calls for a 6.9 per cent increase in spending on the imperial family, for a total of \$7,650,000.

Major measures, which led to a storm of protest by rightwing deputies on Thursday night.

Meanwhile, several thousand followers of the Carlist Party, a dissident branch of the Spanish Bourbon royal family, are to hold a traditional meeting tomorrow on top of Mount Montejurra in northern Navarre Province.

The Carlists, who fought on the side of General Franco in the Civil War, have long since gone over to the opposition and the meeting is expected to turn into an anti-government rally.

Moscow considers Cairo request for industrial parts

CAIRO, May 8, (R) — The Soviet Union has agreed to consider Egypt's request for industrial spare parts and other equipment, the weekly newspaper Akhbar Al Yom reported here today.

In a front page report, the paper said the request was made by Egypt's Trade and Supply Minister, who visited Moscow recently to sign a trade agreement.

Quoting official sources, the paper said the minister's visit to the Soviet Union was successful.

Sarkis voted new president

[Continued from page 1] meanwhile, expressed satisfaction at the election, presidential sources said.

Other sources said that Mr. Sarkis had telephoned Mr. Franjeh shortly after the vote to express his regrets that he could not see him personally, "because of security conditions." Protocol calls for the newly-elected president to visit his predecessor immediately after the election.

Mr. Sarkis cannot take office before Mr. Franjeh, whose removal was a key leftist demand, formally hands in his resignation. He has given no indication when



AERIAL LOOK — Picture shows an aerial view of Vezone, one of several villages damaged by the earthquake that hit northern Italy Thursday night. (AP wirephoto).

Carvalho launches candidacy for Portuguese presidency

LISBON, May 8 (R) — The man once popularised as the Fidel Castro of Europe, Major Otelio Saraiva de Carvalho, was launched as a presidential candidate today by Portugal's "Popular Power" radicals.

Major Carvalho, operational commander of the April 1974 coup which ended 50 years of rightwing dictatorship, has been in the political wilderness since last November's leftwing military rebellion aimed at unseating the country's centrist provisional government.

His sponsors — an alliance of 58 small leftist groups — represent remnants of the Popular Power Movement which hoped to install a regime based on workers' and soldiers' councils instead of a parliamentary democracy.

Major Carvalho was arrested, demoted from the rank of general, and stripped of his commands after last November's leftwing uprising, in which he was officially said to have been involved.

Despite the intervention of the left-wingers in the presidential poll, scheduled for June 27, Army Chief-of-Staff Antonio Eanes remains the front runner.

His candidacy was being discussed today by the Socialist Party. He already has the backing of the centrist Popular Democrats (PPD) and the conservative Centre Democrats (CDS). They took second and third place to the Socialists in the April 25 parliamentary elections.

Forty-one-year-old General Eanes is the man who masterminded the suppression of the November 1975 rebellion.

Major Carvalho was proposed as a candidate by a resolution of leftwing groups meeting here yesterday.

A radical leftwing newspaper quoted Major Carvalho as telling his backers he would stand only if there was a true popular movement in his favour.

It quoted him as saying the consensus which appears to be bu-

Neto to Havana

sent no-one but Christian areas of Lebanon. "The only political legitimacy comes from the people," it added.

As parliament waited for the necessary quorum, the ornate hall of the villa looked more like an armed camp than a democratic institution, with some 80 gunmen standing by.

Mr. Rashid Karami, Prime Minister in the defunct Lebanese government, made a short speech after the votes were counted and told the assembly: "All Lebanese are one family now."

His words were followed by a burst of machinegun fire nearby.

Eritreans seek office in Tunis

TUNIS, May 8 (AFP) — The Eritrean Liberation Front (ELF) today formally requested the right to open an office in the Tunisian capital.

ELF Secretary-General Osman Saleh Sabi said after a meeting here with Tunisian Prime Minister Hedi Nouira that the front wanted a permanent representative in Tunisia and needed Tunisia's support for its cause in international bodies.

He added that Mr. Nouira had assured him again of Tunisia's "clear and unambiguous" position, supporting the Eritrean people's right to self-determination.

Ethiopia broke off diplomatic relations with Tunisia, a fellow Organisation of African Unity member last July, because of this country's backing for the secessionist ELF.

The front has waged a guerrilla campaign against Addis Ababa's rule in the province since 1962, when Eritrea ceased to be a federal partner of Ethiopia and was redesignated a province.

Neto to Havana

MOSCOW, May 8 (AFP) — Angolan President Agostinho Neto will visit Cuba at the end of July, Tass news agency reported today from Luanda.

The visit is in response to an invitation from Soviet Communist Party chief Leonid Brezhnev who visited India in 1973.

Mrs. Gandhi was last in the Soviet Union in 1971, just before the Bangladesh war and immediately after the signing in New Delhi of the far-reaching Indo-Soviet Treaty of Peace and Friendship.

The visit will come amid fresh moves by India to settle outstanding issues with Bangladesh and Pakistan and its decision to send an ambassador to Peking after a gap of 15 years.

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Ford is more aggressive in Midwest campaign

LINCOLN, Nebraska, May 8 (R) — President Ford went on the offensive in the Midwest farm belt today to hunt Ronald Reagan's mounting challenge for the Republican presidential nomination.

A change in campaign strategy was apparent as the President, avoiding question-and-answer sessions, painted a glowing picture of the United States under his leadership.

The President stayed with the prepared text of speeches and avoided political exchanges with his audiences.

In the past, Mr. Ford had been forced on to the defensive by question-and-answer sessions in the face of Mr. Reagan's charges that he was surrendering control of the Panama Canal and had permitted America's defences to weaken.

Mr. Ford is re-assessing his campaign strategy after severe primary election defeats in Texas, Indiana, Georgia and Alabama.

Concentrating today on his own record, he told a University of Nebraska audience:

"Because we are strong, because we are prepared... America has gained new respect and the

Greece, Turkey could draft "overall agreement"

ANKARA, May 8 (AFP) — The Greek and Turkish foreign ministers could agree to the principle of an "overall agreement" on relations between the two countries, a well-informed source said here today.

These first steps may be made when Turkish Foreign Minister Ihsan Sabri Caglayangil meets his Greek opposite number Dimitrios Bitsios at the meeting of NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organisation) ministers on May 19 in Oslo, the source said.

If they reach agreement, a meeting may be called for the month afterwards between Greek Premier Constantine Karamanlis and Turkish Premier Suleyman Demirel.

The source said that the non-aggression pact proposed by Greece would be a formality once an overall agreement had been signed.

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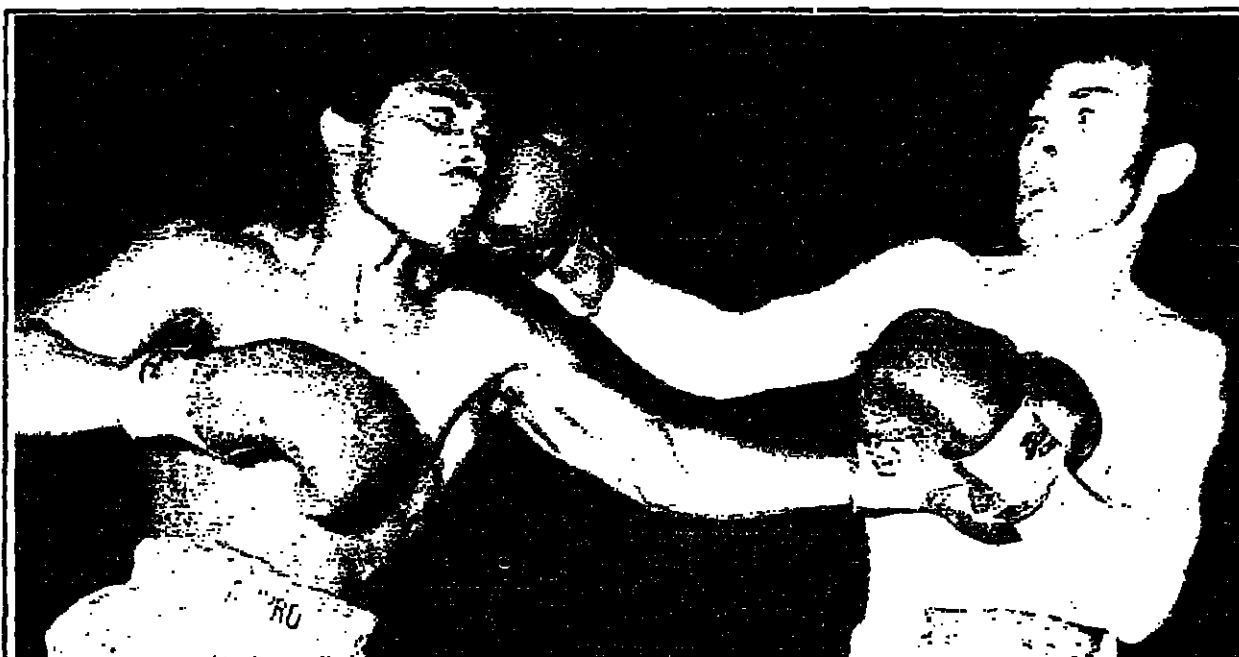
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Alan Minter (right) delivers a good right hook to the face of his challenger, Billy Knight, during his successful defence of the British middleweight championship title.

Fly the Royal Je

Alia makes it a small world

With our modern jets we combine the east with the west... with our good service we make our customers happy... they never say goodbye, we always see them again.